Message Text

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UNCLAS MEXICO 13338

FOR ARA/MGT KRIEGER FROM CALDERHEAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, CGEN, MX

SUBJECT: REHIRING RETIRED CONSULAR OFFICERS

FOLLOWING OUR CONVERSATION OF AUGUST 8, I SENT TO ALL PRINCIPAL OFFICERS IN MEXICO THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

- 1. AS POSSIBLE SOURCE OF AMERICAN OFFICER MANPOWER NEEDED TO BOLSTER THE STAFFS OF EMBASSY AND CONGEN IV ISSUING POSTS TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH RECAPTURED CUBAN VISA NUMBERS, THE DEPARTMENT IS EXPLORING THE PROSPECT OF REAPPOINTING QUALIFIED RETIRED OFFICERS. THUS FAR THREE OFFICERS HAVE RESPONDED FAVORABLY AND IT IS ANTICIPATED THEY WILL BE ASSIGNED TO MEXICO AS SOON AS PER PROCESSING ACTION COMPLETED. THE NAMES OF OTHER QUALIFIED AND INTERESTED OFFICERS ARE NEEDED AND YOUR HELP IS REQUESTED IN IDENTIFYING THEM.
- 2. IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF YOU WOULD REPORT TELE-GRAPHICALLY TO ARA/MGT, ATTENTION GEORGE KRIEGER, WITH AN INFO COPY TO EMBASSY, THE NAMES, ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF ANY RETIRED FSO'S OR FSSO'S WHO HAVE CONSULAR BACKGROUNDS (PREFERABLY SPECIFIC IV VISA EXPERIENCE) AND WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF SPANISH AND WHO UNCLASSIFIED

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WOULD CONSIDER REAPPOINTMENT AS FSR-6 FOR A LIMITED PERIOD OF UP TO 2-3 YEARS. IN SITING FSR-6 BENCHMARK, KEEP IN MIND AND EXPLAIN THAT REAPPOINTED RETIRED OFFICERS CAN ONLY EARN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEIR CURRENT RETIREMENT PAY AND THE BASIC SALARY THEY EARNED AT TIME OF RETIREMENT. SEE 3 FAM 125.5-3 FOR PRECISE LANGUAGE ON THIS POLICY.

3. THE JOBS TO WHICH REAPPOINTED OFFICERS WILL BE REASSIGNED ARE FOR THE MOST PART IN MEXICO, SPECIFICALLY AT MEXICO CITY, MONTERREY, GUADALAJARA, TIJUANA AND UNCLASSIFIED

CIUDAD JUAREZ, BUT A FEW OFFICERS MAY ALSO BE NEEDED FOR SHORTER PERIODS AT OTHER POSTS IN OTHER ARA COUNTRIES.

- 4. TIJUANA AND CIUDAD JUAREZ ARE REQUESTED TO WEIGH MOST CAREFULLY THE AVAILABILITY OF OFFICERS WHO MAY BE RETIRED IN THE SAN DIEGO AND EL PASO AREAS. IF QUALIFIED AND INTERESTED OFFICERS EXIST, THEY COULD BE REAPPOINTED FOR DUTY AT TIJUANA AND CIUDAD JUAREZ WITH MINIMUM DISRUPTION TO THEIR LIVES SINCE THEY COULD MAINTAIN THEIR CURRENT HOMES AND COMMUTE. RETIRED OFFICERS WILLING TO TRAVEL WOULD BE USED ELSEWHERE IN MEXICO AND AT POSTS IN OTHER ARA COUNTRIES.
- 5. CONGENS MONTERREY AND GUADALAJARA SHOULD LOOK CAREFULLY AT PROSPECTS FOR REAPPOINTING QUALIFIED OFFICERS RETIRED IN IMMEDIATE AREA FOR USE AT YOUR RESPECTIVE POSTS.
- 6. WHILE DEPARTMENT WILLING TO CONSIDER ALL CANDIDATES, IT PREFERS OFFICERS WITH RELATIVELY RECENT VISA EXPERIENCE SINCE SUCH OFFICERS, WITH BRIEF REFRESHER TRAINING, UNCLASSIFIED

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COULD BE QUICKLY PRODUCTIVE. SPANISH LANGUAGE COMPETENCE ADEQUATE TO BE SELF-SUFFICIENT IN INTERVIEWING PROCESS IS ESSENTIAL. KEEP IN MIND THAT OFFICERS WHO HAVE BEEN RETIRED FOR LESS THAN ONE YEAR ARE ELIGIBLE FOR QUICK SECURITY RECERTIFICATION WHEREAS OFFICERS RETIRED FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR MUST HAVE FULL SECURITY UPDATE WHICH MAY BE TIME-CONSUMING.

7. YOU ARE ALREADY AWARE THE DEPARTMENT IS HAVING DIFFICULTY KEEPING REGULAR CONSULAR JOBS FILLED. THE REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE A SPECIAL CADRE OF OFFICERS TO DEAL WITH CUBAN NUMBERS WORKLOAD SERIOUSLY COMPOUNDS THE PROBLEM. CLEARLY WE CAN HELP OURSELVES AND THE DEPARTMENT IF WE CAN IDENTIFY OFFICERS ABLE AND WILLING TO HELP OUT IN THIS UNIQUE SITUATION. PLEASE GIVE THE MATTER YOUR CLOSEST AND EARLY ATTENTION. LUCEY

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